

Rockwell with Portraits of Dwight D. Eisenhower and Adlai Stevenson

Photo attributed to Bill Scovill, November 3, 1956.

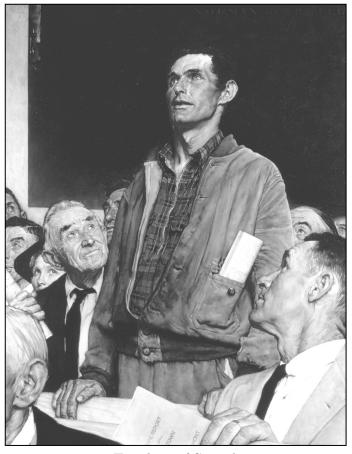
"To us, illustration was an ennobling profession. That's part of the reason I went into illustration. It was a profession with a great tradition, a profession I could be proud of."

— Norman Rockwell

Widespread reappraisal of Rockwell's legacy by serious scholars and the mainstream media, ranging from art historian Robert Rosenblum to author John Updike, are praising Rockwell's work and refocusing attention on his skill as an artist and on his vision of American society that showcase our nation's ideals of kindness, tolerance, democracy, and freedom, as interpreted through his spirit, wisdom, and gentle humor.

BASIC FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Government-wide Financial Statements Statement of Net Assets Statement of Activities



Freedom of Speech

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Inspired by President Franklin D. Roosevelt's January 6, 1941 State of the Union address where he spoke of the four fundamental freedoms of all Americans: freedom from fear, freedom from want, freedom of speech, and freedom to worship, Norman Rockwell painted these *Four Freedoms*.

This illustration was the first in the series. After attending a town meeting in Arlington, Vermont, Rockwell realized that he had found the idea he needed to get started. As in so many of his pictures, Rockwell includes himself. He is the person furthest back on the left. In *Freedom of Speech*, Rockwell depicts an ordinary man, standing amongst neighbors at a town meeting and speaking his mind. Rockwell's neighbor, Jim Edgerton, served as inspiration for the figure.